



City and County of the City of Chester

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN
AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
CITY AND COUNTY OF THE
CITY OF CHESTER

On the Health of the City and the Work of the Health Department in 1954

BY

D. F. MORGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Together with the Report of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
W. B. CALDER, F.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

INDEX

	PAGE
A	
Ambulance Service	26
Atmospheric Pollution	42
B	
Birth Rate	8
Blind Persons	29
B.C.G. Vaccination	28
C	
Canal Boats	42
Care of Mothers and Young Children:—	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	16
Infant Welfare, Centres	16
Premature Infants	17
Dental Care	18
Dried Milk Foods, &c.	18
Unmarried Mothers and their Children	19
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Report of	38
Clearance Areas	40
Common Lodging Houses	42
Cysticercus Bovis	54
D	
Death, Causes of and ages at	10
Dental Treatment	19
Diphtheria Immunisation	25
Domestic Help	30
E	
Epileptics	30
F	
Factories Acts	57
Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1938, Analyses	48, 50, 51
Food Establishments, Hygiene	46, 47, 48
Food Inspection, Unsound Food	55
Food Poisoning	14, 48
G	
General Death Rate	9
General Statistics	7
H	
Health Committee	4
Health Officers	4
Health Services provided under National Health Service	
Acts	16
Health Education	31
Health Visiting	21
Home Nursing	22, 23, 30
Housing	40
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	41
I	
Ice Cream	48
Infant Mortality	8
Infectious Diseases	12
Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children	19

INDEX—Continued.

	PAGE
L	
Laboratory Services	15
Licensed Premises	49
M	
Mass Radiography	29
Medical Examinations	36
Mental Health	31
Lunacy	31
Mental Deficiency	32—35
Occupational Training	32
Midwifery Service	19
Milk:—	
Analyses	52
Bacteriological Samples	52
Examination for Tuberculosis	52
(Special Designations) Order	46
N	
National Assistance Act, 1948	35
Notifiable Diseases	13
Notification of Births	22
Nursery and Child Minders (Regulations) Act, 1948	19
Nursing Equipment, Provision of	22
Nursing Homes	19
O	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	21, 29
Outwork	58
P	
Pet Animals Act, 1951	53
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care	28
R	
Rag Flock Act	46
Rodent Control	43, 44, 45
S	
Sanitary Inspection of Area	38
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	53, 54
Spastics	30
T	
Tuberculosis	14, 15, 28
V	
Vaccination and Immunisation	24, 25
Venereal Disease	15
Vital Statistics	7, 11
W	
Water	37
Welfare Foods	18

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1954.

Chairman - - COUNCILLOR E. E. ASHTON.

Deputy Chairman - - ALDERMAN ARTHUR CHARMLEY.

Members :

ALDERMAN CHARLES SCONCE	COUNCILLOR W. J. GRIFFITHS
ALDERMAN DAVID R. OWEN	COUNCILLOR EMILY WARING
COUNCILLOR THE REV. E. J. LAWSON	COUNCILLOR P. G. COLEMAN
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COUNCILLOR A. W. WALL	COUNCILLOR J. F. LEATHERBARROW

Co-opted Members :

DR. W. GILCHRIST.	COL. C. W. MARSDEN.
B. A. WILLIAMS.	

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.....	D. F. Morgan, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officers of Health	Ivy F. Fallon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
	A. McGregor, M.B., CH.B., B.A. Appointed 1/5/54.
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Food In- spector, Factory Acts Supervision, etc.	*†W. B. Calder, F.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector...	*†G. E. Jarvis, M.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A.
District Additional Sanitary In- spectors	*M. G. H. Tresidder, C.R.S.I. †*R. B. Powell, M.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A. O. C. R. Roberts, M.S.I.A. Resigned 5/12/54. *S. Clarke, M.S.I.A. (Transferred from Hoole 1/4/54).
Assistant District Inspector	H. J. Hewitt, M.S.I.A.
Public Abattoir Superintendent and Additional Sanitary Inspector	*J. H. Withington, M.S.I.A. Retired Dec. 1954.
Superintendent Health Visitor and Non-Medical Supervisor of Mid- wives	§Miss M. H. Beattie, S.R.N., H.V.C. Retired 31/7/54. §Miss B. M. Long, S.R.N., H.V.C., CERT P.H.A. Commenced 1/8/54.
Superintendent Home Nursing Ser- vice	§Miss M. H. Greenwood, S.R.N., Q.N.

Health Visitors	§ Mrs. M. T. Slater, S.R.N., H.V.C.
	§ Mrs. M. McGovern, S.R.N., H.V.C.
	§ Miss M. W. Wright, S.R.N., H.V.O.
	Miss M. Hughes, S.R.N., H.V.C.
	Mrs. H. Bradley, S.R.N., H.V.C.
	Miss N. Crammond, S.R.N., H.V.C.
	Miss B. M. Blood, S.R.N., H.V.C. Commenced 1/5/54.
Clinic Nurse	Miss Z. K. Wilkins, S.R.N., H.V.C. Resigned 30/4/54.
Municipal Midwives	Miss Ashton, S.R.N., S.C.M.
	Mrs. Rawlins, S.C.M.
	Miss Phillips, S.C.M.
	Mrs. Samuels, S.C.M.
	Mrs. Gaulton, S.C.M.
	Mrs. N. M. M. Goodson, S.C.M.
Chief Clerk	R. W. Hudson.
Domestic Help Organiser	Miss M. H. Ashley.
Occupation Centre Supervisor ...	Miss E. M. Chappelle.

† Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Food Inspection.

* Certificate, Liverpool University, Meat and Food Inspection.

§ Certificate, Central Midwives Board.

Health Department,
St. Martin's House,
Chester.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The extension of the City Boundary on 1st April, 1954, increased the area from 4,142 acres to 4,659: the population in the new area was 58,100 compared with 48,200, and the number of inhabited houses went up from 13,085 to 15,519. The Rateable Value rose from £440,014 to £497,365 and the sum represented by a Penny rate from £1,796 to £2,057.

Some increase in the Staff of the Department was inevitable. One full time Assistant Medical Officer of Health/School Medical Officer was appointed; one Health Visitor/School Nurse, one District Nurse, one Sanitary Inspector, one Domestic Help, one Ambulance Driver, and part of the services of a Clerk.

A Tuberculosis After-Care Committee was formed, arrangements were made for B.C.G. Vaccination, and for the better supervision of Tuberculosis Patients at home. The Mobile Mass X-ray Unit of Liverpool Regional Hospital Board commenced another profitable visit to Chester in December, 1954.

Our Antenatal Clinic was closed and the premises were used for a new function—that of the Sale of Welfare Foods to the public—formerly carried out by the Ministry of Food.

You decided on the erection of a new Public Abattoir, (should Chester be chosen for a Centre) and control of the Queen Street Abattoir came once more under the Council.

The Occupation Centre, opened in 1953 for the training of ineducable children, expanded to admit more City cases and some County ones. The transport arrangements for the pupils were revised and improved.

We suffered the loss, through retirement, of several members of the Staff who had been with us many years. I would like to express to them as well as to the remaining Staff, my sincere thanks for their enthusiasm and skill in past years.

Finally, we are grateful for the stimulus you have given us in our work by your keen and lively interest and by your most welcome guidance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. F. MORGAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	4659
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	58100
Population (Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	48229
Number of inhabited houses end of 1954	...	...	...	...	...	...	15519
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£497365
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£2057

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—

	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate per 1000 Population
Legitimate	458	439	897	
Illegitimate	28	29	57	
Totals	486	468	954	16.4

Still Births—

	Still Birth Rate per 1000 (Live and Still) Births
	20.5

Deaths—

	Death Rate per 1000 Population
All causes	10.5

Deaths of Infants under one year old—

	Death Rate per 1000 Live Births
All Infants	26.2
	Death Rate per 1000 legitimate Live Births
Legitimate Infants	24.5
	Death Rate per 1000 illegitimate Live Births
Illegitimate Infants	52.6

Deaths from Certain Causes—

	Death Rate per 1000 total (Live and Still) Births
All Maternal Causes	1.02
	Death Rate per 1000 Population
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.24
	Death Rate per 1000 Population
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0.02
	Death Rate per 1000 Population
Cancer	2.25

BIRTH RATE

The Birth Rate per 1,000 population was 16.4

Comparative figures are as follows:—

England and Wales	15.2
Great Towns	15.2
Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	14.9
CHESTER (area comparability factor (0.94) applied)	15.4

Still Births allocated to the City numbered 20, giving a rate of 20.5 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. This figure compared with 21.2 in 1953.

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 25 deaths in infants under 1 year compared with 27 in 1953. The mortality rate per 1,000 live births was 26.2 compared with 32.4 in 1953.

Comparative figures are as follows:—

England and Wales	25.5
Great Towns	25.2
Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	26.6
CHESTER (area comparability factor (1.02) applied)	26.7

The actual causes of death in these 25 cases were as follows:—

	(1953)	1954
Whooping Cough	1	—
Measles	—	—
Bronchitis	1	—
Pneumonia	3	2
Gastro-enteritis, diarrhoea	1	3
Other digestive diseases	—	—
Premature Births	8	9
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries and Infantile Disease	5	9
Tubercular Meningitis	—	—
All Other Causes	8	2

GENERAL DEATH RATE

There were 614 deaths in Chester residents giving a death rate of 10.5 per 1,000 population.

Comparative figures are as follows:—

England and Wales ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.3
Great Towns ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.1
Smaller Towns ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.3
CHESTER (comparability factor (1.02) applied)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.7

The Death Rate of 10.5 per 1,000 population (adjusted by the Area Comparability Factor to 10.7 per 1,000) is the **lowest Death Rate** ever recorded in the City. In these records, which go back to 1867, there was a crude Death Rate in 1928 of 11.4, adjusted to 10.8, and last year (1953) there was a crude Death Rate of 10.8 adjusted to 11.0.

Adjustment of the Crude Death Rate is made by multiplying it by the Area Comparability Factor—a Factor calculated by the Registrar General to adjust the figures for age and sex distribution of the population.

372 deaths or 60 per cent. occurred in the age group 65 years and over.

Heart disease accounted for 188 deaths and other circulatory conditions for 29 deaths.

Bronchitis was the cause of death in 27 cases, pneumonia in 23 and other respiratory conditions in 6 cases.

Cancer accounted for 131 deaths, of which 42 were in the age group 65 years and over, and 29 were of the lung or bronchus.

There were 14 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 death from other causes of tuberculosis.

It is gratifying to note that there were no deaths from Diphtheria, Measles or Whooping Cough.

Cause of Death.		At all Ages	0—1	1—5	5—15	15—45	45—65	65 and Over
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	9	—	—	—	1	6	2
	F	5	—	—	—	2	2	1
2. Tuberculosis, Other	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
10. Cancer, Stomach	M	13	—	—	—	8	—	5
	F	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
11. Cancer, Lung, Bronchus	M	27	—	—	—	1	17	9
	F	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
12. Cancer, Breast	F	13	—	—	—	1	8	4
13. Cancer, Uterus	F	9	—	—	—	1	5	3
14. Cancer, Other	M	31	—	—	—	1	9	21
	F	34	—	—	—	2	13	19
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	30	—	—	—	1	5	24
	F	45	—	—	—	2	6	37
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	47	—	—	—	1	19	27
	F	30	—	—	—	—	6	24
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	10	—	—	—	1	3	6
	F	14	—	—	—	—	2	12
20. Heart Disease, Other	M	39	—	—	—	1	8	30
	F	48	—	—	—	1	6	41
21. Other Circulatory Disorders ...	M	18	—	—	—	—	3	15
	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
22. Influenza	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
23. Pneumonia	M	15	2	1	—	1	3	8
	F	8	1	—	—	—	2	5
24. Bronchitis	M	17	—	—	—	—	6	11
	F	10	—	—	—	—	1	9
25. Other Respiratory	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	5	—	—	1	—	2	2
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	6	—	—	—	—	2	4
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
	F	4	1	—	—	—	1	2
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	3	—	—	—	—	1	2
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	4	—	—	—	—	1	3
30. Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	M	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
	F	6	4	—	—	1	1	—
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	27	7	1	—	1	11	7
	F	23	2	—	—	2	5	14
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34. All Other Accidents	M	9	—	1	2	4	1	1
	F	7	2	1	—	—	—	4
35. Suicide	M	7	—	—	—	—	4	3
	F	4	—	—	—	1	3	—
36. Homicide and Operations of War	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Estimated Population.	Births.	Birth Rate.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 1000 Live Births.
1940	46960	731	15.7	681	15.2	48	64.7
1941	47500	748	15.7	608	12.8	62	82.1
1942	46570	759	16.3	566	12.1	52	68.5
1943	45410	770	16.9	576	12.6	41	53.2
1944	43880	825	18.8	579	13.2	56	67.8
1945	44430	807	18.1	604	13.5	64	79.3
1946	46460	917	19.7	598	12.8	54	58.8
1947	47190	1046	22.1	661	14.0	84	81.2
1948	47190	863	18.2	575	12.2	32	37.1
1949	47470	886	18.6	578	12.1	29	32.7
1950	48680	795	16.4	564	11.5	16	20.1
1951	47600	780	16.4	646	13.5	33	42.3
1952	47900	854	17.8	538	11.2	19	22.2
1953	48200	831	17.2	521	10.8	27	32.4
1954	58100	954	16.4	614	10.5	25	26.2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

306 cases of measles and 102 of whooping cough were notified. The figures for 1953 were 375 and 127 respectively. Scarlet Fever cases numbered 24 compared with 20 in 1953.

There were no cases of diphtheria notified.

Food poisoning notifications totalled 3, details of which are shown under the relevant heading.

The outbreak of measles was followed by a smaller outbreak of whooping cough, and it will be seen from the table that the majority of cases occurred between 5 and 10 years of age.

FOOD POISONING.

Special mention is made of this disease because of its ever present threat (especially in a centre such as Chester), because of its "preventability", and because notification of cases must be immediate if effective action is to be taken.

No outbreaks occurred during the year; all the cases notified were isolated ones. Where patients had eaten suspected food outside the City area, information was passed to the Medical Officer of Health concerned. Similarly when patients notified in other areas had taken food in Chester, a thorough investigation of the suspected source was made.

I would emphasise the necessity for immediate notification in Food Poisoning and, in cases of doubt it is better to have a notification, subsequently cancelled, than to miss a single carrier who may give rise to widespread distress and tragedy in future years.

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS.

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952 require that new notifications be accepted by the authority in whose area the case is first notified. Details of such notifications are as follows:—

Total of new cases notified (see table)	...	...	...	...	70
Not normally resident in City	...	...	...	...	15
					55
Normally resident but notified to other authorities	...	...	...	...	4
Total of new cases normally resident in City	...	...	...	...	59

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.			NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	...	...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	...	...	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
2—	...	...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5—	...	...	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
10—	...	...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—	...	...	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
20—	...	...	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—	...	...	7	6	1	2	1	2	1	0
35—	...	...	6	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
45—	...	...	7	1	0	0	6	2	0	0
55—	...	...	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
65—	...	...	4	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
75—	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	...	...	41	19	6	4	9	5	1	0

An account of Preventive and After-Care work is given under Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care, later in the report.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 172.

There has been no occasion to enforce removal to Hospital of a patient suffering from respiratory Tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

A clinic is held at Chester Royal Infirmary at the following times :

Monday (5—7 p.m.) Female.

Wednesday (5—7 p.m.) Male.

Thursday (5—7 p.m.) Female.

Saturday (12—2 p.m.) Male.

The following is the number of Chester patients attending during each year for the last five years :—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Syphilis	15	13	6	5	5
Gonorrhoea	9	6	13	12	3
Conditions other than Venereal ...	34	45	27	43	28
	<hr/> 58 <hr/>	<hr/> 64 <hr/>	<hr/> 46 <hr/>	<hr/> 60 <hr/>	<hr/> 36 <hr/>

There was a welcome decline in the number of cases attending the clinics, pointing to lowered incidence. It is apparent, too, that patients are becoming more willing to attend the treatment centre.

Warning must be given of the dangers of incomplete treatment. It is so easy to obtain drugs and antibiotics outside the clinics and to have incomplete treatment which relieves the initial symptoms of Venereal Disease (but does not cure it), that there is a real danger of the disease lighting up again in future years in much more serious and tragic forms.

Efforts were made to trace contacts, but the information obtained from clinics and M.I. Rooms is all too scanty and infrequent. The numbers have fallen off greatly and there is insufficient liaison between the Treatment Centres and the Local Authority Services. The difficulties of divulging confidential information are appreciated, but the Local Health Authority has a duty to prevent illness—and employs a trained staff of Health Visitors and Medical Officers who can do much more to wipe out the V.D. scourge if they are given the chance.

Where case histories have been given, it has been possible—even with scanty information—to secure the co-operation of the patient or contact. I would congratulate the staff on their successes even when it seemed impossible on the information given, to trace people suffering from V.D.

LABORATORY SERVICES.

The Pathological Departments of the Chester City Hospital, the Royal Infirmary and the Medical Research Council Laboratory at Birkenhead have continued to examine all types of specimens sent either by general practitioners or the Health Department.

There is excellent co-operation between the Laboratories and the Health Department.

SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACTS

1. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Section 22).

(i) Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

The Antenatal Clinic which was formerly held at the Princess Street Clinic weekly, was closed down on 1st April, 1954. Almost all of the patients were those whose confinements were booked in the City Hospital, which Hospital has its own Antenatal Clinics. It was suggested that an Antenatal Clinic attended by the Municipal Midwives might be run with advantage to Midwives and patients; but as many General Medical Practitioners in the City have their own special sessions for Antenatal care, it was felt that the need for a Health Department Clinic was not so acute in Chester as it would be elsewhere. Many Doctors are able to devote some time to the teaching of the hygiene of Pregnancy, Relaxation exercises, preparing for the confinement and instruction in Analgesia which would be taught at such a Clinic.

The possibility of a Consultant Antenatal Clinic, attended by Doctors of Consultant status was considered. Here it was felt that the facilities offered by the City Hospital were adequate to deal with the position.

Number of Mothers seen by Doctor ...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Number of attendances ...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Number of post-natal cases ...	...	...	...	...	...	8

(ii) Infant Welfare.

In addition to the Clinics held at St. Martin's House (Monday and Thursday afternoons), at Blacon (on Wednesday afternoons) and at Saltney (on Tuesday afternoons), when the City Area expanded to include Hoole on 1st April, arrangements were made with the Cheshire County Council for the continuation of the Hoole Clinic at 55, Hoole Road. This was open on Tuesday afternoons. An Assistant Medical Officer of Health attended, together with Health Visitors. Welfare Foods were on sale at all the Clinics by arrangement with the Ministry of Food.

Cases requiring Medical attention were referred to their own General Medical Practitioners.

ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The following attendances were made during the year:—

	(1953)	1954
(a) By children under 1 year of age ...	(3801)	2771
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	(1042)	559

Consultations with the Medical Officer:—

(a) First visits of children under one year ...	(325)	279
(b) Subsequent visits ...	(512)	461
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits ...	(49)	64
(d) Subsequent visits ...	(174)	187
(e) Mothers ...	(24)	17

SALTNEY INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The following attendances were made during the year :—

	(1953)	1954
(a) By children under 1 year of age	(953)	1189
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	(210)	131
Consultations with Medical Officer :—		
(a) First visits of children under one year	(85)	101
(b) Subsequent visits	(192)	63
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	(11)	18
(d) Subsequent visits	(45)	43
(e) Mothers (consultations)	(4)	8

BLACON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The following attendances were made during the year :—

	(1953)	1954
(a) By children under 1 year of age	(1149)	1958
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	(246)	317
Consultations with the Medical Officer :—		
(a) First visits of children under one year	(105)	157
(b) Subsequent visits	(97)	347
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	(13)	23
(d) Subsequent visits	(47)	51
(e) Mothers (consultations)	(3)	9

HOOLE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The following attendances were made during the year :—

	1954
(a) By children under 1 year of age	1232
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	142
Consultations with Medical Officer :—	
(a) First visits of children under one year	143
(b) Subsequent visits	232
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	24
(d) Subsequent visits	30
(e) Mothers (consultations)	—

(iii) Premature Infants.

The Premature Baby Unit at the City Hospital was able to cope with most babies below 5½ lbs. so that few were nursed at home. Such nursing equipment as was necessary in the home was available on loan from the District Nurses' Home.

By arrangement with the Physician-in-Charge, the Health Visitors attended at the Premature Baby Unit of the Hospital. Staff shortages prevented as full attendance as would have been liked. On discharge home, Premature Babies were visited by the Health Visitors,

(iv) Supply of Dried Milks, etc. (Welfare Foods)

National Dried Milk and all Welfare Foods and nutrients under the Government Welfare Foods Scheme are available at all the Infant Welfare Clinics. Clerical work is undertaken by the Council's Staff. Many other kinds of Dried Milk Foods and Nutrients are also available at the Clinics, and the Council's Scheme provides for the free issue of these to necessitous cases.

On 9th August, 1954, the Sale of Welfare Foods, which had formerly been a function of the Ministry of Food and which had recently been taken over by the Local Health Authority, was transferred to premises at the Bishop Graham's School, Princess Street.

Two full time Clerks were employed for the Sale of National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin Tablets, and they, together with the Staff of the Department, carried out the necessary clerical and recording work. The possibility of opening branch Depots in other parts of the City was considered. The Centre at Princess Street is open daily from 9-0 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. and from 9-0 a.m. to 1-0 p.m. on Saturdays.

(v) Dental Care.

With the Dental Staff increased to two full time Dental Surgeons, it was possible to devote more time to the care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children. In the tables which follow it must be remembered that on 1st April, the area of the City expanded to include Hoole U.D.

(a)—Numbers provided with Dental Care :

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	25	25	25	25
Children under Five ...	81	81	81	81

(b)—Forms of Dental Treatment provided :

	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures provided		Radio-graphs
							Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	9	42	...	...	19	5	...	...	...
Children under Five	1	43	11	...	122	69	...	...	...

(vi) Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children.

The Maternity Department of the City Hospital provides the necessary accommodation for a wide area.

The Paediatric Department centred on the City Hospital has accommodation for marasmic and ailing babies and premature infants.

Healthy children up to the age of three are admitted to the Lache Nursery and children over the age of three to Eaton Park View, Wrexham Road, both being administered by the Child Care Committee of the City Council. Periodic examinations and examinations on admission and discharge are carried out by the staff of the Health Department.

Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Babies.

Where application for accommodation in Voluntary Mother & Baby Homes was made, the Chester & District Moral Welfare Association enquired into the case and found accommodation in a Home. The Council contributed towards the cost, the normal period being from six weeks before to six weeks after the expected confinement, with the possibility of extension where necessary in the interests of mother and baby.

The cases were followed up at home by the Health Visitors.

Under the Scheme, seven unmarried mothers were assisted during the year, compared with four in 1953. These were brought to the notice of the Health Committee by the Chester & District Moral Welfare Association and I would like to pay tribute to the Outdoor Worker for the work she has done in investigating and arranging for the accommodation of these cases, as well as for other Chester cases not assisted by the Corporation.

It is not an easy matter to find vacancies in the right kind of Mother and Baby Home, and still less to interview putative fathers to try to get them to accept their responsibilities. Yet in all the cases assisted by the Corporation, investigations of this nature were carried out and, where necessary, the expectant mother was advised to apply for an Affiliation Order.

Nursing Homes.

There were two Nursing Homes on the register at the end of the year. The number of available beds was 24.

Nursery and Child Minders (Regulations) Act, 1948.

One application for registration under the above Act was granted, subject to the maximum accommodation for ten children.

2. MIDWIFERY (Section 23).

The Chester City Council employs 6 Full-time Municipal Midwives for Domiciliary work, under the supervision of a Lay Supervisor (who is Superintendent Health Visitor).

The Ante Natal care of women to be confined at the City Hospital is carried out at the Hospital's Clinic.

All Corporation Midwives are trained in, and have available, Gas & Air Analgesia, and the use of other analgesics, e.g. Pethidine.

Close co-operation was maintained between the Municipal Midwives and the doctors undertaking Domiciliary Midwifery, and the Medical Aid Scheme provided for adequate medical attendance at the confinement, the Doctors' fees being paid either under their arrangements with the Executive Council, or by the Corporation (if another Doctor had to be called).

49 cases were so attended.

The City Hospital referred to the Health Department those cases who wished to book confinements at the Hospital, but did not fall into one of the necessitous groups, and, where home circumstances permitted, arrangements were made for confinement at home. Conversely, where home circumstances rendered home confinement undesirable, the case was referred to the City Hospital.

276 confinements were attended by the Municipal Midwives, 253 as Midwives and 23 as Maternity Nurses.

STATISTICS.

No. of cases attended as midwives	...	...	...	...	253
No. of cases attended as maternity nurses	...	...	...	...	23
No. of ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	1776
No. of daily nursing visits	...	...	...	...	4806
No. of miscarriages attended	...	...	...	...	—
No. of cases given gas and air analgesia:—					
(a) As midwife	...	...	...	...	114
(b) as maternity nurse	...	...	...	...	13
Doctors called in by midwives	...	...	...	...	49
Notifications of artificial feeding	...	...	...	...	—

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

Total number of births notified	...	...	...	...	2043
Cases attended and delivered by the doctors	...	...	...	...	23
Cases attended in Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	190
Cases attended and delivered by midwives	...	...	...	...	253
Cases attended in Hospitals	...	...	...	...	1288
Number of Still Births	...	...	...	...	50

Of the 253 births attended by Midwives, in 49 cases Medical Aid was required. The necessity arose from the following causes :—

Lacerated perinaeum	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Illness of child	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Complication before labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Complication during labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Complication during 'lying in' period	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Temperature ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Abnormality of child	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stillbirth	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							—
Total							49
							—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No cases were notified during the year.

3. HEALTH VISITING (Section 24).

Eight full-time Health Visitor-School Nurses are employed, and a Superintendent who is also Supervisor of Midwives.

The duties are approximately half School work and half Health Visitor's work. Besides the normal attendance at Ante Natal and Infant Welfare Clinics, domiciliary visiting included :—

- (a) Aged sick on Hospital Waiting Lists.
- (b) Tuberculosis—Care and After Care.
- (c) Mental Defectives on licence, leave and statutory and Voluntary Home supervision; reports on home circumstances.
- (d) After Care of some patients previously dealt with under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.
- (e) Visits to Problem Families.
- (f) Venereal Disease Contacts.
- (g) Cancer Research enquiries.
- (h) National Survey of Nutrition.

In the cases of children discharged after In-Patient Treatment, the Hospitals sent to the Health Department copies of the reports to the General Medical Practitioners.

These cases were followed up by the Health Visitor-School Nurses.

The following visits were paid by the Health Visitors (excluding School Nurses' work).

Primary Birth Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	891
Return Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	443 ²
Visits to children (1—5 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	907 ²
Visits to Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	...	378
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	2027
Visits to Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Visits to Cases of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	831

4. HOME NURSING SERVICE (Section 25).

The District Nurses' Home, which is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, provided residential accommodation for six whole-time District Nurses and the Superintendent. Recruitment difficulties have obliged the Health Committee to appoint some District Nurses as Non-residential. There is close co-operation with the General Practitioners on their cases, and with the Hospitals regarding the admission and treatment on discharge of the patients.

No regular night shift is worked, but a rota of evening duties is maintained and Nurses are available at the Home for emergency night calls.

Arrangements were started this year for a District Nurse to attend a Refresher Course and one Nurse attended during 1954. This brings the Service into line with the facilities for Refresher Courses which the Corporation provides for Health Visitors and Midwives.

Nursing equipment is available and during the year 157 articles were on loan or hire.

Transport is by bicycle and public transport and a car is kept for the Superintendent's, emergency or long distance use.

DISTRICTS		Medical		Surgical		Infectious Disease		Luber- culosis (Surgical)		Maternal		Injections, Others		Aged 65 years and over on First Visit		Aged under 5		Cases re- ceiving more than 24 Visits	TOTAL	
		Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits			
NEWTON	...	74	1972	14	494	3	5	—	—	—	—	44	804	69	1900	6	17	31	135	3275
BOUGHTON	...	86	1368	32	1440	—	—	1	7	—	—	50	1300	91	3014	10	78	39	169	4115
SALTNEY	...	82	1275	24	431	1	5	4	177	1	6	67	867	65	1605	16	72	21	179	2761
HANDBRIDGE	...	62	1778	27	909	—	—	2	32	—	—	58	1358	63	2591	6	62	32	149	4077
BLACON	...	98	1865	34	900	—	—	8	172	6	39	97	1088	105	2175	14	60	43	243	4064
CENTRAL	...	64	1997	19	1165	—	—	1	6	1	9	30	739	65	3124	4	10	30	115	3916
HOOLE	...	50	1543	17	812	—	—	4	88	—	—	47	1648	47	2294	6	32	32	118	4091
TOTALS	...	516	11798	167	6151	4	10	20	482	8	54	393	7804	505	16703	62	331	228	1108	26299

The total numbers of Cases and Visits in 1953 were 911 and 21,928 respectively.

Number of cases on books, 1/1/54, carried over from 1953 139
 Number of new cases 960
 Number of cases on books at 31/12/54 193
 Of the 960 cases attended, 505 were aged 65 or over and, of the total
 visits (26,299), 16,703 were paid to these.
 The average number of nurses employed full time was 7 1/12
 The average number of hours worked by each daily was 8
 The average number of hours worked by each per week was 48

5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26).

Besides the facilities available at Doctors' Surgeries, Immunisation against Diphtheria is given at all Infant Welfare Clinics, and it has been the practice to hold an Immunisation Session at the Schools at the end of each School Medical Inspection.

Immunisation against Diphtheria alone is generally done, but where request was made, this was combined with Whooping Cough Immunisation.

By holding sessions at the School Medical Inspections, a good follow-up with Booster doses is maintained.

The parent of each pupil to be examined is reminded of the necessity for Booster injections.

The majority of Vaccinations are carried out by General Medical Practitioners in their own surgeries.

Pamphlets and Posters are displayed in all Infant Welfare Centres.

Details of persons Vaccinated during the year are as follows :—

AGES	NUMBER VACCINATED	NUMBER RE-VACCINATED
0—1 years	285	—
1—4 years	48	4
5—14 years	36	8
15 years and over	41	79
Totals	<u>410</u>	<u>91</u>

Details of children immunised over the last 15 years and in the age groups from under 1 year to 15 years and over are shown in the table on the following page.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Age in Years 31st Dec, of the corres- ponding year.	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Total inocu- lated 1940-1954
0	10	...	16	14	18	123	109	39	Age 0-4 years 1605
1	30	105	320	221	184	230	243	288	191	378	284	217	233	215	329	
2	5	80	202	113	80	102	108	84	294	140	74	58	70	32	101	
3	4	70	184	63	37	37	40	39	78	35	24	21	39	19	50	
4	...	21	20	54	32	29	31	44	55	30	57	27	18	20	36	
5	157	74	308	88	174	118	73	84	96	61	163	48	50	76	88	Age 5-9 yrs Completed: 1950-1954...1294 1949 or earlier ...1787 3081
6	209	80	374	59	61	87	54	54	60	41	58	15	33	78	53	
7	201	40	201	62	28	28	44	17	51	6	17	2	20	21	16	
8	136	56	134	42	10	15	58	11	20	...	6	2	20	2	6	
9	71	54	147	43	11	12	49	12	6	2	6	3	10	1	3	
10	74	36	111	36	9	12	46	6	9	6	5	1	5	...	2	Age 10-14 yrs. Completed: 1950-1954... 152 1949 or earlier ...2809 2961
11	45	17	89	30	9	2	45	13	6	8	12	3	5	...	2	
12	48	22	82	21	6	3	36	5	4	6	2	...	...	3	1
13	16	9	54	29	2	...	26	7	3	2	...	...	...	...	...
14	3	...	20	28	5	2	75	2	3	4	12	5	...	...	...
15 and over	18	15	3	2	Age 15 years and over 4811
Total each Year	999	664	2246	907	648	677	928	691	879	737	734	420	626	576	726	GRAND TOTAL 12458
Re- Inoculations	1987	955	609	1023	786	698	676	965	893	Total Re-Inoculations 8592

6. AMBULANCE SERVICE (Section 27).

The City Ambulance Service also operates a service by agreement for contiguous parts of the Counties of Cheshire and Flintshire.

The Staff consists of an Officer-in-Charge and 13 Driver/Attendants and 2 Attendants (Non-Drivers), with one Clerk/Telephonist.

A new Sitting Case Car was purchased, bringing the fleet of vehicles to two Sitting Cars and four Ambulances.

I am pleased to report that better co-operation was maintained with the Hospitals, so that long ambulance journeys which should have been undertaken by public transport, have not been so frequent. Ministry of Health Circulars have emphasized that transport should not be expected because a patient has luggage, nor should relatives be called to travel with the patient to the exclusion of other patients.

Far too often the Hospitals ask for journeys which are arranged by them for the convenience of the patient. More consideration must be shown for the problems of the Local Health Authority administering the Service. The prime consideration in all cases should be the MEDICAL necessity of the patient, and other factors, e.g., convenience to the patient or his relatives, must take second place. The Local Authority will do what it can to co-operate with the Hospitals in these matters, but it must be realised that this Service is primarily an Ambulance Service and not a Transport Service.

It will be noted that the total mileage run by the Ambulances is increasing year by year.

YEAR	TOTAL MILES	TOTAL NO. OF PATIENTS CARRIED
1951	64,685	7,662
1952	64,221	7,903
1953	66,065	10,600
1954	73,250	15,753

Much of the work has been inter-hospital and the City Ambulance Service has undertaken these journeys, but it is felt that the Service would be much more efficient if waiting time were cut to a minimum.

The periodic maintenance of the vehicles by the Transport Department has resulted in a better standard of upkeep and reliability than was possible hitherto, and credit is also due to the Ambulance Staff for their part in the care and maintenance of the vehicles.

Vehicles :—

- Bedford 25 h.p. First registered 1948.
- Bedford 25 h.p. First registered 1949.
- Bedford 25 h.p. First registered 1951.
- Bedford 15 h.p. First registered 1953 (Sitting Case Vehicle).
- Bedford 28 h.p. First registered 1954.
- Bedford 15 h.p. First registered 1954 (Sitting Case Vehicle).

The table on the following page gives particulars of the work carried out during the financial year ended 31st March, 1954.

7. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE & AFTER-CARE (Section 28).

(i) Tuberculosis.

The Tuberculosis Medical Officer of the Regional Hospital Board at the City Hospital is employed on one session per week for Preventive and After Care work. B.C.G. Vaccinations were done at the Chest Clinic.

The B.C.G Scheme for vaccination of School Children was considered, though it was not started during the year.

A system of weekly cross-notification between the Health Department and the Chest Clinic (City Hospital) ensures continuity of Preventive measures. There was close liaison between the Chest Clinic and the Health Department. One Health Visitor was appointed to attend at the Clinic and to visit Tuberculosis Patients in their homes. A great improvement in the liaison between the two centres was immediately apparent.

I would like to thank the Doctors and Staff of the Clinic for their great help during the year. Preventive Tuberculosis work has been enhanced and has assumed a more concrete and purposeful form. It was easier also to assess the relative needs for rehousing of Tuberculosis Families.

Residential After Care at Wrenbury Hall (County Council) Colony was provided for selected cases, and the Council also contributed towards the cost of patients at other Tuberculosis Colonies, e.g. Barrowmore.

Home Nursing Equipment was available on loan, and the Council provided a Garden Shelter in one case.

No. of patients receiving B.C.G. Vaccination through Chest Clinic	69
No. of visits to patients by Health Visiting Staff	1531
No. of patients assisted in T.B. Colonies	5
No. of Contacts (City) examined at Chest Clinic	570
No. of these found to have Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS & DEATHS DURING YEAR.

Age Periods.			NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	...	...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	...	...	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
2—	...	...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5—	...	...	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
10—	...	...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—	...	...	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
20—	...	...	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—	...	...	7	6	1	2	1	2	1	0
35—	...	...	6	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
45—	...	...	7	1	0	0	6	2	0	0
55—	...	...	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
65—	...	...	4	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
75—	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	...	...	41	19	6	4	9	5	1	0

Contacts of patients notified as dying from Tuberculosis are investigated in the same way as those notified during life. Employment conditions are investigated in all notified cases and there is liaison between the Chest Clinic and the Medical Officer of Health from this aspect.

Mobile Mass Radiography Unit.

The Number 3 unit of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board visited the City from 1st December, 1954 to 11th April, 1955 and was centred on the Civil Defence Headquarters, Boughton. Visits were made to industrial concerns and to large communities. Full details will be given in the Report for 1955.

(ii) Blind Persons.

The Chester & District Blind Welfare Society give the following data :—

	On Register		New Cases 1954		Deaths 1954	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Blind	38	50	3	4	4	10
Partially Sighted	—	10	—	2	—	—

A.—FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS.

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Other
(i) Number of cases registered during year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends :				
(a) No treatment	2	1	1	2
(b) Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical) ...	1	1	—	1
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	1	1	—	1

B.—OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	Nil.
(ii) Number of cases in which :— a. Vision lost b. Vision impaired c. Treatment continuing at end of year	Nil.

(iii) Epileptics and Spastics.

Epileptic and Spastic children of school age are dealt with under the Education Acts.

Three adult epileptics are known to the Welfare Department. These are accommodated in Part III accommodation. Three adult spastics are registered. Efforts were made to get suitable training in one case. A class in Handicrafts for Disabled Persons was commenced by the Welfare Authority, transport being provided by the City Ambulance Service.

A unit for spastic children at Clatterbridge Hospital was projected.

(iv) Illness Generally.

Besides the Health Visiting, Home Nursing and Domestic Help Schemes, nursing equipment was available from the District Nurses' Home. During the year 157 articles were loaned.

Close liaison has been maintained with Hospitals regarding home circumstances and to enable needy patients to obtain Convalescent treatment.

The Health Visitors paid 2,027 visits to cases of illness.

8. DOMESTIC HELPS (Section 29).

Twelve full-time Domestic Helps and one Organiser were employed.

The shortage of Chronic Sick Hospital accommodation in Chester was reflected in the high proportion of these cases receiving domestic help. As these patients need help over long periods, it was usually necessary to give them part-time assistance. Bearing in mind the hardships and difficult circumstances of such cases, the Committee considered the appeals, in particular instances, on their merits. Ninety per cent. of the total number of hours worked were for the aged, chronic sick and infirm cases.

TYPE OF CASE	NO. OF CASES	HOURS WORKED
(a) Acute Illness	24	1793
(b) Maternity	14	688
(c) Tuberculosis	—	—
(d) Aged, Infirm and Chronic Sick	132	21957
(e) Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency	5	138
	<hr/> 175	<hr/> 24576

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Talks were given in the Infant Welfare Clinics to groups of mothers by Health Visitors. Pamphlets and Posters were exhibited in the Infant Welfare Clinics, Dental Clinic and the Health Department.

Illustrated lectures to Food Handlers were given by the Staff during the year.

9. MENTAL HEALTH.

Administration.

The Staff employed consisted of the Medical Officer of Health, the Assistant Medical Officer of Health (both of whom are approved for the purposes of the Ascertainment and Certification of Mental Defectives), two part-time Duly Authorised Officers and such services of Health Visitors as were necessary. No Psychiatric Social Workers or Mental Health Workers are employed.

There was no joint use of officers of other Authorities. Patients on trial from Mental Hospitals and on leave or licence from Mental Deficiency Hospitals were supervised by the Authorised Officers, Health Visitors or, in special cases, by the Medical Officer of Health. Reports were received from the Mental Hospitals of patients on discharge therefrom.

No duties were delegated to Voluntary Organisations.

Prevention of Mental Illness.

On discharge from Mental Hospital, reports of the patients' progress were received and follow-up visits made by Health Visitors and Duly Authorised Officers.

An After-Care Club, which had been formed under the guidance of the Staff of the Hospital, began its meetings in premises provided by the Health and Education Departments. Meetings were held fortnightly or weekly.

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

The following numbers of Patients were dealt with:—

1954	Certified.		Voluntary.		Sect. 20-21		No Action		After Care Visits	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	12	14	42	57	23	28	18	22	38	34
TOTALS ...	26		99		51		40		72	
Discharged ...	3	3	37	47	4	7				
Died ...	6	5	...	...	2	2				

The Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38:—

(i) Ascertainment of Mental Defectives is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer of Health. In borderline cases, the policy, especially with children, has been to give them every opportunity for Education (in special classes if need be) before reaching a final decision on their non-educability. After notification to the Local Health Authority, re-examination is carried out as an additional check. Particularly difficult cases are referred to the Regional Hospital Board's Consultant Psychiatrist who has special experience in such cases.

Statutory and Voluntary Supervision is the work of the Health Visitors, though special cases may be visited by the Medical Officers. The normal period for visits is three-monthly, though it will be appreciated that stable cases may only require visits annually, and difficult cases may require more frequent supervision. Certain of these visits may also be done by the Authorised Officers.

(ii) Guardianship: There were no Mental Defectives under Guardianship in the City of Chester.

(iii) Occupation Centre: Attendances at the Centre at the Congregational Church School Rooms, Christleton Road, increased rapidly in numbers and an arrangement with the County Council for attendance of six County children was put into operation. After the Boundary Extension on 1st April, many of these cases came under the City Authority.

By the end of the year, most of the City cases who were suitable were in regular attendance, and increases occurred only when fresh cases were notified under the Education Acts or when patients moved into the City Area.

Mention must be made of the benefit to the pupils at the Centre which was soon abundantly apparent. The parents were rested from their responsibilities, the children were improved in manner and bearing, and were subject to that kind but firm discipline which can only be given by specially trained staff.

Transport facilities provided by the City Ambulance Services were constantly under review, and eventually all the children were transported directly from their homes to the Centre. This is advantageous in the case of Mongols (who generally are prone to Respiratory Diseases) and Spastics (to whom walking may present a difficulty).

There is no doubt that the opening of this Centre has gone a long way to offset the dire shortage of hospital accommodation. Many cases which were classified as 'urgent' because of the prolonged strain on the Mother were relieved, though the necessity for permanent residential accommodation remained.

There are still those cases not in attendance at the Centre.

Not all Mentally Defective children are suitable for training at an Occupation Centre. Some may suffer from frequent epileptic fits; in others, their habits may make it undesirable for them to attend. Such patients are better cared for in Hospitals. Until there is sufficient accommodation for them in the Hospitals, we have been urged to accept some of them into Occupation Centres with a view to alleviating what must often be very difficult home circumstances.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1938.

					During 1954				Total cases on Authority's register as at 1.1.55			
					Under age 16		Age 16 & over		Under age 16		Age 16 & over	
					M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Particulars of cases reported during 1954.												
(a) Cases at 31st December, ascertained to be defective "subject to be dealt with."												
Action taken on reports by:—												
(i) Local Education Authorities on children.												
(1) While at school or liable to attend school					—	3	—	—				
(2) On leaving special schools ...					—	—	—	—				
(3) On leaving ordinary schools ...					—	—	—	—				
(ii) Police or by Courts					—	—	—	—				
(iii) Other sources					1	—	2	—				
(b) Cases reported but not regarded at 31st December, as defectives "subject to be dealt with" on any ground ...												
(c) Cases reported but not confirmed as defectives by 31st December, and thus excluded from (a) or (b)												
Total number of cases reported during the year					1	3	2	—				
2. Disposal of cases.												
(a) Of the cases ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" number:—												
(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision					1	3	2	—	7	14	27	20
(ii) Placed under Guardianship* ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) Taken to "Places of Safety" ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iv) Admitted to Institutions ...					—	—	—	—	1	2	26	19
(b) Of the cases not ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" number:—												
(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision					—	—	1	—	—	—	3	9
(ii) Action unnecessary					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Item 2					1	3	3	—	8	16	56	48

*Number of defectives under Guardianship on 1st January, 1955, who were dealt with under the provisions of Section 8 or 9 :—

MALES—Nil. FEMALES—Nil.

During 1954

Total cases on
Authority's
register as at
1.1.55Under Age 16
age 16 & over
M. F. M. F.Under Age 16
age 16 & over
M. F. M. F.

3. Classification of defectives in the Community on 1st January, 1955.

(a) Cases included in item 2 (a) to (iii) above in need of institutional care:—

(1) In urgent need of institutional care:—

(i) "cot and chair" cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) ambulant low grade cases	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2
(iii) medium grade cases	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1
(iv) high grade cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(2) Not in urgent need of institutional care:—

(i) "cot and chair" cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
(ii) ambulant low grade cases	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	1
(iii) medium grade cases	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	3	1
(iv) high grade cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total of Item 3 (a)	—	—	—	—	—	7	14	9	5
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---

(b) Of the cases included in items 2 (a)

(i) and (ii) and 2 (b) (i) overleaf, number considered suitable for:—

	Under age 16		Age 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
(i) occupation centre	7	9	6	8
(ii) industrial centre	—	—	2	—
(iii) home training	—	—	2	1
Total of Item 3 (b)	7	9	10	9

(c) Of the cases included in item 3 (b) number received training on 1-1-55:—

(i) in occupation centre	7	8	3	3
(ii) in industrial centre	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home	—	—	—	—

Total of Item 3 (c)	7	8	3	3
----------------------------	---	---	---	---

4. Number of Mental Defectives who were in Institutions, under Community Care (including Voluntary Supervision) or in "Places of Safety" on 1st January, 1954, who have ceased to be under any of these forms of care during 1954.

	M.	F.	T.
(a) Ceased to be under care	—	—	—
(b) Died, removed from area, or lost sight of	4	3	7
Total	4	3	7

5. Of the total number of mental defectives under Supervision or Guardianship or no longer under care.

(a) Number who have given birth to children while unmarried during 1954 Nil									
								Males	Females
(b) Number who have married during 1954								Nil	Nil

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Under the provisions of this Act and its 1951 Amendment (for Emergencies), three patients were dealt with during the year.

One, aged 73, was admitted to Welfare Accommodation, where she died later in the year.

The second, aged 92, was suffering from Senility and after a short period in Welfare Accommodation, it was necessary to remove her to a Mental Hospital, where she subsequently died. Senile mental changes frequently thus precede death.

The third, aged 74, was removed directly to Hospital, where, after some months, she died.

Cases in Welfare Accommodation were subsequently followed up and, in each case, there was a remarkable improvement in the well-being and happiness of the patient. It is quite common to hear the remark: "Why didn't I come in here before?", even where there has been the bitter opposition to removal. Earlier compulsory removal may not have been possible, but much suffering, discomfort and even unhappiness might have been saved if these elderly patients could have understood and appreciated what was provided for them. It is natural, perhaps, that they cling to their own homes and belongings, however poor and unsanitary these may be, and the duty of the Medical Officer of Health in bringing up such cases for Compulsory Removal is an extremely difficult one—a fact which is not always appreciated by those who would like to see the patients admitted earlier.

Knowledge of the Welfare Accommodation provided under the National Assistance Act will gradually reach the population and we hope in future years to have fewer and fewer cases of Compulsory Removal. For the time being, we have, however, to deal with a section of the community who, being elderly, do not know of these relatively recent provisions, and in whose minds the thoughts of "Workhouse", not "Welfare", are uppermost.

It is perhaps a "sign of the times" that a number of cases referred to me this year for Compulsory Removal have, albeit at the last minute, decided to accept Welfare Accommodation voluntarily. Is it possible that news of the comfort and happiness found in our Welfare Homes is reaching them?

There is no doubt that the excellence of our Welfare Homes in Chester goes a long way to overcoming the fear of admission.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

(1) Residential Nurseries.

The Medical Officers carried out routine examinations of the Children in the Lache Day Nursery (Children's Department) and of those in the Children's Home, Eaton Park View on admission, discharge and special occasions.

Both the homes come under the care of the Child Care Committee.

(2) Superannuation Examinations.

Staff of all Corporation Departments were examined by the Medical Officers for the purpose of determining their fitness for (a) Employment (b) Entry into the various Sickness Pay Schemes (c) Entry into the Corporation Superannuation Scheme.

In the case of Staff associated with School Children, the examinations have included X-Ray of chest (usually done at the Mass Radiography Unit), and for teachers in the Education Department, full reports on Forms 4 R.T.C. and 28 R.Q. were made.

The number of examinations in the year was 412, and the increasing work is shown by the following figures:—

1952	.....	204 examinations
1953	.....	338 examinations
1954	.....	412 examinations

The City water supply is derived from the River Dec and is supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company. The water is filtered and chlorinated at the Company's works.

The standard of purity, absence of bacillus coli in 100 c.c.'s of the water as supplied to the consumer has been maintained during the year.

Bacteriological examinations of the water supply including water from various filter beds have been carried out twice a month. In addition, chemical analyses of water from a consumer's tap have been carried out by the Public Analyst every month, and the following table gives the result of these analyses, which conforming to the recognised standard method of reporting results are shown in parts per million of water.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF CITY WATER SUPPLY, 1954.

Parts per 1,000,000 of Water	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total Solid Matter in Solution	180.0	200.0	40.0	140.0	140.0	120.0	160.0	200.0	140.0	100.0	180.0	120.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates...	Nil	1.25	1.0	1.0	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.0	1.25	0.72	0.75	1.0
Nitrites	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chlorine in Chlorides	24.0	25.0	18.0	17.0	35.0	15.0	29.0	18.0	17.0	17.0	15.0	17.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80° F.	0.06	0.62	0.47	0.36	0.60	0.38	0.11	0.54	0.16	0.52	0.77	0.82
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil	0.08	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.06	0.05
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Microscopical Examination of Sediment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temporary Hardness	55.0	60.0	45.0	35.0	90.0	35.0	40.0	45.0	35.0	65.0	40.0	50.0
Permanent Hardness	35.0	35.0	35.0	30.0	50.0	50.0	35.0	50.0	35.0	10.0	55.0	30.0
pH Value	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.0
Residual Free Chlorine	0.04	0.07	0.02	0.06	0.03	0.4	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.01

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1954.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, which came into operation on the 30th August, 1954, together with the Decontrol of Slaughtering, added substantially to the work of the Department.

Unfortunately, during this period, the Sanitary Staff was reduced to 50 per cent. of its establishment, owing to the resignation of three of its members, and these vacancies had not been filled by the year end.

INSPECTION OF AREA

Environmental Hygiene.

Complaints received in respect of nuisances	...	...	1013
Visits in respect of nuisances	....	...	4187
Dwellings : inspections and re-inspections re:—			
(a) Notifiable diseases	...	...	45
(b) Food poisoning investigations and visits	...		12
(c) Vermin	...	...	172
(d) Overcrowding	...	...	44
(e) Prospective Corporation Tenants	...	...	480
(f) Dustbins	...	...	31
(g) Defects and repairs	...	...	3481
(h) Other purposes	...	...	372
Rooms disinfected after infectious diseases	...	...	50
Rooms disinfested for vermin	...	...	117
Rats and Mice Destruction, visits	...	...	4019
Drainage work:—			
(a) Inspections	...	...	1892
(b) Tests applied	...	...	464
Smoke abatement, observations, etc.	...	...	43
Factories, visits	...	...	307
Common Lodging House, visits	...	...	10
Schools, inspections	...	...	34
Shops, Act, inspections	...	...	614
Licensed premises, inspections	...	...	132
Cinemas and Theatre, inspections	...	...	14
Stables, visits	...	...	2
Squatters' Camp, visits	...	...	14
Offensive trades (excluding Fish and Chip Shops), inspections	...	...	5
Offices, inspections	...	...	31

Waste ground, Common Passages and Playing Fields,	
Inspections	123
Tents, Vans and Sheds, inspections	15
Other business premises, (excluding Factories) ...	25
Canal Boats, inspections	6
Rag Flock premises, visits	14
Brooks and Streams, inspections	33
Piggeries	2
Pet Shops	23

Food Hygiene, etc.

Inspections of Dairies, Milk Shops, &c.	166
Inspections of Butchers' Shops	132
Inspections of Bakehouses	51
Inspections of Fishmongers	44
Inspections of Greengrocers	48
Inspections of Ice Cream premises	129
Inspections of Public Market	46
Inspections of Hotels (Catering)	12
Inspections of Restaurants and Cafes	67
Inspections of General Provision Shops	400
Inspections of Fish and Chip Shops	31
Inspections of Other Food Premises	162
Inspections of Canteens	24

Administration.

(a) Number of letters sent re nuisances	1312
(b) Number of Preliminary Notices served	272
(c) Number of Statutory Notices served	36
(d) Legal Proceedings in default	2*

The majority of nuisances are remedied by informal action and the co-operation of those concerned.

*Sec. 92 P.H.A. 1936. Abatement of Nuisances.

Case 1.

- (a) Court order: 1 month, Fine £2.
 - (b) Court Order: 28 days, Fine £2.
 - (c) Daily Penalty imposed.
- Total £7/10/-.

Case 2.

Summons withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed before hearing.

HOUSING.

Undertakings to close for human habitation the undementioned 16 houses were accepted by the City Council, under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936:—

Part (B).

14, Duke Street; 8, Watkins Court, Pitt Street; 3, Edwards Court, Duke Street; 2, Park Terrace, Foregate Street; 3 and 4, Evans Court, Queen Street; 7 and 9, The Mount, Boughton; 55, New Crane Street; 2 and 4, Green Lane Cottages, Saltney; 6, Grosvenor Court, New Crane Street; 7, Duckers Court, Castle Street; 2 and 3, St. Martin's Court, Nicholas Street; 79a, Brook Street.

Part (A). Clearance Areas—Houses Demolished.

15 and 17, Princess Street; 1, 2, 3 and 4, Edwards Court, Commonhall Street; 1 and 3, St. Martin's Ash, Nicholas Street.

All the tenants of houses in Parts (A) and (B) were re-housed by the Corporation. The houses demolished were situated in Clearance Areas, demolition having been delayed since pre-war.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 480 visits to homes of applicants about to be re-housed by the Corporation to ascertain the state of cleanliness and to obviate vermin being transferred to new houses.

It was only necessary to disinfest rooms and contents in 12 instances.'

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.
RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

PART A. CLEARANCE AREAS (HOUSING ACT 1936)

	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in period		Number of persons displaced
	Unfit Houses	Other Houses	
1. Land coloured "Pink" ...	8	—	9
2. Land coloured "Grey" ...	—	—	—

PART B.—Houses not included in Clearance Areas.

DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.

NUMBER OF
PERSONS
DISPLACED

(1) Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section II

Nil

Nil

	HOUSES	NUMBER OF PERSONS DISPLACED
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section II, and still in force	16	56
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	Nil	Nil
(2) <i>Housing Act, 1949.</i>		
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3(1)	Nil	Nil
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3(2)	Nil	Nil
(3) <i>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.</i>		
Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	Nil	Nil

REPAIRS.

NUMBER OF
HOUSES

INFORMAL ACTION.

(4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts	630
--	-----

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(5) *Public Health Acts.*

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) by owners	36
(b) by local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(6) *Housing Act, 1936.*

Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) :

(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954.

This Act came into force on the 1st September, 1954. The following table gives details of applications and granting of Certificates of Disrepair from 1st September, 1954, to 31st March, 1955.

Number of Applications for Certificates	Number granted	Number refused	Number of Applications for revocation of Certificates	Number granted	Number refused
37	35	2	1	Nil	1

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

In the City, smoke pollution is caused chiefly by domestic chimneys and the Railways, there being few large industrial undertakings having coal-fired boiler plants.

Forty-three observations have been made on factory chimneys and complaints investigated of excessive smoke from three Laundries, a Scent Works, a Brewery and Tobacco Works. Appropriate informal action was taken in these cases and observations on these and other chimneys continued throughout the year.

Twenty-eight complaints were received from areas in the vicinity of the Leadworks, regarding smells of a burning rubber type and sulphurous fumes.

The Inspector of Alkali, etc., Works has been informed of the complaints and investigations made in co-operation with the Sanitary Inspectors.

Reports of complaints received have been submitted monthly and considered by the Public Health Committee and City Council. Interviews with the Works Manager have been held and on behalf of the owners he assured the Council that, in collaboration with the Alkali, etc., Works Inspector, they will apply the best practical means to abate the nuisances.

Recording apparatus, etc., have been installed by the Leadworks Company on a site in the path of the prevailing winds in an effort to assess the extent of the pollution.

CANAL BOATS.

As in previous years the number of boats using the canal has continued to fall.

Six canal boats were examined during 1954, and five required the service of complaint notes.

At the year end, three notes had been complied with and certificates received from other inspecting authorities that the required work had been completed.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

There is only one privately-owned Common Lodging House (males only) licensed by the City Council.

Ten surprise and routine inspections have been made and several sanitary improvements have been carried out on request and under supervision.

RODENT CONTROL.

Under the scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, a consolidated grant of 50 per cent. of the approved net expenditure, incurred during the financial year 1954-55 is made to Local Authorities. Certain conditions relating to organisation, employment methods, staffing and the carrying out of effective procedure have to be complied with to the satisfaction of the Ministry.

Corporation sewers, surface properties and private houses are treated free of cost. Grant aid is not available in respect of expenditure incurred by the treatment of commercial or industrial premises, the costs being fully re-imbursed by the occupiers so that no charge falls on public funds.

Rodent control in Corporation sewers has been intensified. Two "maintenance" and one "test bait" treatments being carried out during the year.

The results of these treatments are shown in the following tables :

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 2/53/54.
22nd February to 18th March, 1954.

Man holes treated	Prebait takes (1)				Prebait takes (2)				Poison takes				Estima- ted kill.
	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	
274	117	62	46	49	122	49	54	49	—	48	142	84	477

Bait base :— Bread mash plus Poison—Arsenic.

C—Complete take. G—Good. S—Small. N—No take.

Sewer Test Baiting.
July, 1954.

No. of Manholes Tested		Result			
		C.	G.	S.	No Take
140		6	2	5	127

Test baiting with damp sausage rusk was applied in the areas of the City having modern piped sewers, as from practical experience the old sewers of the City are known to be rat infested.

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 1/54/55.
23rd August to 15th September, 1954.

Manholes Treated	Prebait Takes (1)				Prebait Takes (2)				Poison Takes				Rats Destroyed
	C	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	
350	153	58	69	70	120	58	80	92	—	55	166	129	828

Bait base :— Sausage rusk plus Poison—Zinc Phosphide.

There is little doubt that effective treatment of the sewers reduces the complaints from surface properties. In built-up areas such infestations are eventually traced to defective drains and the complaints remedied following repairs.

The sewers and Corporation refuse tips remain the major source of infestation in the City. The tip, sewage works and land adjoining are kept under routine observation and received ten treatments during the year.

The rodent staff (1 Foreman and 2 Operators) are engaged for a total of approximately three months annually in the treatment of sewers, sewage work and refuse tips alone.

In addition to the 2,776 visits paid to manholes by the Rodent Staff, 4,017 visits were also made by this Staff and Sanitary Inspectors to surface properties during the financial year ended 31st March, 1955.

Estimated total of vermin destroyed : Rats—7,150 ; Mice—4,694.

Hoole U.D.C. was incorporated in the City from the 1st April, 1954, and the above figures include work carried out in that area.

The result of searches, complaints and the services to premises in the City is shown in the following table :—

TYPE OF PROPERTY	NON-AGRICULTURAL				AGRI- CULT- URAL
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All Other (including Business Premises)	Total	
I.—Total number of Properties in Local Authority's District	98	16230	2539	18867	11
II.—Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
(a) Notification 	27	240	66	333	—
(b) Survey under the Act 	42	253	180	575	7
(c) Otherwise 	—	10	9	19	—
III.—Total Inspections carried out (including re-inspections)	426	2957	644	4010	7
IV.—Number of properties inspected (in Section II) found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats—Major 	23	20	18	61	—
Rats—Minor 	16	242	35	293	—
(b) Mice—Major 	11	60	20	91	—
Mice—Minor 	3	31	19	53	—
V.—Properties in Section IV treated by Local Authority ...	53	353	83	489	—
VI.—Notices served under Section 4 of the Act 	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
VII.—Cases of Default 	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
VIII.—Legal Proceedings 	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
IX.—“Block” Control Schemes carried out 	—	21	28	49	—

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

The above-mentioned Act came into operation on 1st November, 1951, and repealed the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928. Its purpose is to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles or other articles which are stuffed or lined.

The Act requires the licensing of premises where filling materials are used for upholstering, stuffing or lining of bedding, toys or baby carriages but, unfortunately, excludes premises where these articles are remade or reconditioned.

Fourteen visits were made to premises within the City but only one came within the purpose of the Act and received a licence.

One sample of Loose Washed Flock (50% wool) was submitted to the Prescribed Analyst for examination and was certified to be in accordance with the standard of cleanliness laid down in the Act.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following are registered to sell milk in the City in accordance with the above Regulations. The figures include Hoole U.D.C., taken over from 1st April, 1954.

Premises registered as Dairies	6
Purveyors and Shopkeepers retailing bottled milk only	30
Purveyors with premises outside, retailing in City ...	14
	—
TOTAL	50
	—

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following licences were issued for the sale of designated milk within the City during the year ended 31st December, 1953:—

(a) Pasteuriser's Licence	1
(b) Dealer's Licences:—	
(i) T.T. Milk	30
(ii) Pasteurised Milk	48
(iii) Sterilized Milk	7
(c) Supplementary Licences:—	
T.T. Milk	4

FOOD HYGIENE.

(FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, SECTION 13 AND BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15).

The Chief and Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspectors have continued to give lectures and demonstrations on the principles of hygiene and the dangers involved in the neglect of personal and kitchen hygiene to staffs of food premises and numerous organisations.

The recording and detailed inspection of food premises was continued during the year, but progress was impeded by shortage of staff.

Detailed inspections have been made and on initial inspection the premises were classified according to (a) suitability of premises (b) type and condition of equipment (c) methods employed and (d) general standards of hygiene.

Initial inspections for this purpose numbered 74 and re-inspections 91.

Where necessary, the attention of proprietors and management was called by interview and letter to defects, &c., requesting co-operation in order to advance the grading classification of these premises.

Such co-operation has been willingly given, resulting in a marked improvement in the standard without need for statutory action.

The work carried out included :—

- (i) Repairs to walls, ceilings, floors, doors and windows, etc.
- (ii) Painting of walls, ceilings and woodwork.
- (iii) Provision of adequate ventilation and lighting.
- (iv) Removal of refuse, etc., and regular cleaning of premises, etc.
- (v) Personal cleanliness, overalls, etc.
- (vi) Provision of wash basins, sinks, and hot and cold water supply, soap and clean towels, etc.
- (vii) Food storage accommodation and refrigerators.
- (viii) Provision of sanitary accommodation.

The following table gives the state of classification of food premises inspected and re-inspected to the end of 1954 since commencement of the scheme : —

	Classification on First Inspection	Classification of same premises at end of 1954
Excellent	30	50
Good	161	180
Fair	121	120
Poor	78	45
Bad	9	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	399	399
	<hr/>	<hr/>

NOTE.—Excellent means first class in all respects, Good means minor defects only, Fair means few small defects in structure, equipment or methods, Poor means below standard generally and Bad means very unsatisfactory.

The four premises classified “bad” had been satisfactorily dealt with early in 1955.

The following is a list of the food premises in the City.

TYPE	NUMBER	TYPE	NUMBER
Bakehouses	16	Kiosks	5
Brewery	1	Licensed Victuallers	107
Butchers' Shops	74	Wholesale Meat Depots ...	2
Cake Shops	22	Mineral Water	
Cheese Factors	2	Manufacturers	2
Dairies	7	Mobile Canteen	1
Egg Packing Station	1	Restaurants and Cafes ...	69
Fishmongers	18	School Kitchens	17
Fried Fish & Chip Premises	30	School Meals Centres	11
General Stores	11	Slaughterhouses	2
Greengrocers	55	Sweet Manufacturers	2
Grocers and Provisions ...	128	Sweet Shops	41
Hotels	27	Tripe Shops	2
Ice Cream Manufacturers	6	Wholesale Grocers	6
Ice Cream Wholesale		Works & Stores Canteens	15
Depots	1		

FOOD POISONING—INVESTIGATIONS.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 12 investigations and re-visits to suspected cases notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and collected 14 specimens of food, faeces, &c., for bacteriological examination.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 (Section 14).

The following premises are registered in the City for :—

	NO. OF	
	PREMISES	INSPECTIONS
(a) The sale, manufacture for sale, or storage of ice cream intended for sale	186	129
(b) the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	30	42

ICE CREAM.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953, came into operation on 1st June, 1953.

The Order provides that Ice Cream must contain at least 5% fat, 10% sugar and $7\frac{1}{2}\%$ milk solids other than fat. The standard applies to any products (including those supplied in catering establishments) which are sold as "ice cream" or "ices", but does not apply to water ices sold as such or to "ice lollies".

The fat content of the nine samples analysed is shown in the following table :—

FAT CONTENT PER CENT.								
Standard 5 and 4 per cent.	5 and under 6	6 and under 7	7 and under 8	8 and under 9	9 and under 10	10 and under 11	11 and under 12	12 and over
Number of Samples	1	1	3	1	1	1	—	1

The samples also satisfied the tests for sugar content, and milk solids other than fat.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES.

During the year, 46 samples of ice cream were bacteriologically examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

The following table sets out the results :—

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES
Grade 1—Satisfactory	42
Grade 2—Satisfactory	3
Grade 4—Unsatisfactory	1
	—
TOTAL	46
	—

There were four samples containing Faecal B. Coli (concerning two premises). In both cases the premises, utensils and methods were examined and following up samples were reported to be up to standard (Grade 1), with Faecal B. Coli absent.

All the premises, &c. on which ice cream was manufactured, stored or sold were regularly inspected and the condition of utensils, methods. etc. found to comply with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952.

LICENSED PREMISES.

132 visits were made to licensed premises and a comprehensive report submitted to the Licensing Justices.

Special attention has been directed to hygiene and the provision of sanitary accommodation. Particular attention has also been paid to the condition of beer cellars, especially in regard to the type and condition of piping from barrel to pump, cleanliness, structural condition, ventilation and drainage of floor and, where necessary, repairs and alterations have been carried out on request.

No complaints were received regarding unclean drinking utensils, &c. but this gives no room for complacency.

The generally high standard of hygiene in licensed premises within the City was maintained.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT. 1938.

The following tables show (1) the samples submitted to the Public Analyst (H. Lowe, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.) during the year, and (2) the administrative action taken in respect of samples certified to be not genuine.

ARTICLE	Number Examined			No Adulterated, &c.		
	Formal	In-formal	Total	Formal	In-formal	Total
Milk	24	56	80	2	2	4
Ice Cream	—	9	9	—	—	—
Beer	—	4	4	—	—	—
Ice Lolly	—	4	4	—	—	—
Pork Sausages	1	3	4	—	1	1
Tea	—	2	2	—	—	—
Orange Squash	—	2	2	—	—	—
Oranges	—	2	2	—	—	—
Gravy Browning	—	2	2	—	—	—
Whisky	2	—	2	—	—	—
Blackcurrant Cordial	—	1	1	—	—	—
Piccalilli	—	1	1	—	—	—
White Pepper	—	1	1	—	—	—
Liquorice Aniseed and Squills	—	1	1	—	—	—
Aspirin	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sparkling Grape Fruit	—	1	1	—	—	—
Swiss Roll	—	1	1	—	—	—
Grapefruit	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemons	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mixed Pickles	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pickle	—	1	1	—	—	—
Custard Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fish Paste	—	1	1	—	—	—
Chipolata Sausages	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fruit Drops	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dolly Mixtures	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cooking Fat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Liver Sausages	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Coffee	—	1	1	—	—	—
National Dried Milk	—	1	1	—	—	—
Koscher Margarine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Self-Raising Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Plain Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Honey	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemon Curd	—	1	1	—	—	—
Table Salt	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cream of Tomato Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Damson Jam	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cheese Spread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lard	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dripping	—	1	1	—	—	—
Margarine (with 10% Butter)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cream of Chicken Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Margarine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Butter	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cookeen Compound Fat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sage and Onion Stuffing	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tinned Crab	—	1	1	—	—	—
Table Cream	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mustard	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cake Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
Minced Chicken	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mango Chutney	—	1	1	—	—	—
Marmalade	—	1	1	—	—	—
Butterscotch	—	1	1	—	1	1
Chocolate	—	1	1	—	—	—
Toffee	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bournvita	—	1	1	—	—	—
Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bovril	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meat Paste	—	1	1	—	—	—
Double Cream	—	1	1	—	—	—
Minced meat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tuna Meat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ginger Wine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Stoned Raisins	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Almonds	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gelatine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Blancmange Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beef Suet	—	1	1	—	—	—
Jelly	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pie Filling	—	1	1	—	—	—
Desiccated Coconut	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sild in Edible Oil	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pudding Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Nutmeg	—	1	1	—	—	—
Liver Salt	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cream of Tartar	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomatoes	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beef Sausages	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sweets	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	27	156	183	2	4	6

TABLE II.

Table showing administrative action taken in regard to samples certified to be not genuine.

SAMPLE NO.	ARTICLE	RESULT OF ANALYSES	REMARKS	ACTION TAKEN
Formal 43	Milk	Contained 14 per cent. added water. Fat 2.75 per cent. Solid not fat 7.30 per cent. Freezing Point (Hortvet) -0.461 deg. C. Addition of water confirmed by freezing point test.		Legal Proceedings taken under Section 3 Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Defendant fined £5/- and £1/1/- costs.
Informal 55	Milk	7 per cent. deficient in Fat.	Following up samples from dairy of morning and evening's milk were up to standard. From investigations it appeared that the milk was not being constantly roused during bottling process.	Warning letter to producer.
Informal 92	Butter-scotch	Contained 1.4 per cent. butter fat instead of at least 4 per cent.		Warning letter to manufacturer.
Informal 102	Milk	Contained 1 per cent. added water.	T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk sold in sealed bottles. Sample No. 108 taken following up Sample No. 102. Further following up samples Nos. 109, 110 and 121 were genuine. Addition of small amount of water apparently due to insufficient care at the plant at commencement of operations.	Verbal warning given to dairy company.
Formal 108	Milk	Contained 0.6 per cent. added water.		
Informal 111	Pork Sausage	Meat content 55 per cent. instead of at least 65 per cent.	Following up sample No. 125 (Formal) contained 68 per meat.	Warning letter to manufacturer.

MILK ANALYSES, 1954.

Total Samples analysed	...	...	...	...	...	80
Number certified "not genuine"	...	...	...	...	...	4
Samples below standard for fat	...	...	...	...	...	2
Samples below standard for solids not fat	...	...	...	...	...	3

Average quality (Standards—Fat 3%, Solids not fat 8.5%) :—

Fat	...	...	...	...	3.66%
Solids not fat	...	...	...	...	8.71%

EXAMINATIONS OF MILK FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Seventeen samples of milk were sent to the Medical Research Laboratory, Birkenhead, for examination for the presence of tuberculosis of bovine origin.

The samples consisted of T.T. milk (14) and three of Undesignated milk.

All were certified to be negative.

BACTERIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLES.

Results of the various tests applied to 165 samples of milk submitted for examination are shown in the following table :—

DESIGNATION	NO. OF SAMPLES	TEST APPLIED	NUMBER	
			PASSED	FAILED
Pasteurised	51	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	51 51	— —
Certified T.T.	76	Methylene Blue Coliform	70 76	6 —
T.T. Pasteurised ...	34	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	33 31	1 3
Sterilized	1	Turbidity	1	—
Undesignated	3	Methylene Blue	1	—

NOTES :—

- The "Phosphatase Test" denotes efficient pasteurisation.
- The "Methylene Blue Test" assesses keeping qualities.
- Presence of coliform bacillus indicates faecal contamination.

The attention of the Producer and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was called to the unsatisfactory samples. Subsequent samples passed the appropriate tests.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act, which came into operation on 1st April, 1951, regulates premises on, and conditions under which, pets are housed and sold.

Five premises were licensed under the Act and 23 re-inspections made during the year. All the premises complied with the terms of their licences.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Twenty-eight Renewal and six New Licences were issued to Slaughtermen during the year.

SLAUGHTERING IN THE CITY.

Until the 30th June, 1954, all slaughtering was carried out at the Abattoir by the Ministry of Food, headage charges being paid by them in accordance with the Bye-Laws. Decontrol took place as from the 1st July, when slaughtering became the responsibility of individual butchers.

Application for licencers of a 'private' slaughterhouse was refused by the Council, but on 'appeal' the licence was granted, subject to compliance with the schedule of works required by the Corporation.

Animals slaughtered during 1954:—

Cattle	...	...	...	2124
Calves	...	...	...	2371
Sheep	...	...	...	11395
Pigs	...	...	...	4841
TOTAL				20731

Meat Marking is carried out at the Abattoir where a Meat Inspector is on duty whilst slaughtering is in progress.

Ante-mortem inspections are made of all animals and notes taken of any abnormalities which might assist in the subsequent post-mortem examinations which are carried out on every animal slaughtered.

The weight of food condemned during the year amounted to:—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat and offals	27	1	2	27
Other foods	6	10	2	2
TOTAL	33	12	1	1

All condemned meat is 'dyed green' before removal to an approved processing to ensure that it cannot be used for human consumption.

The following tables show (1) percentage of animals affected with disease and (2) details of all food condemned.

TABLE I.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1954.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1414	710	2371	11395	4841
Number inspected	1414	710	2371	11395	4841
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	6	17	24	51
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	382	270	6	492	324
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	27.09	38.87	0.97	4.52	7.75
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	4	17	5	—	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	160	239	—	—	226
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	11.45	36.05	0.21	—	4.83

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

Nineteen cases were discovered during the year. The following tables show (A) the distribution of the cysts and (B) the incidence during the past.

Table (A).

Animal	Masseter muscles of cheek only	Heart only	Masseter muscles & heart	Heart & diaphragm	Total
Cows	5	—	1	—	6
Heifers	6	1	2	—	9
Bullocks	2	1	—	1	4
	13	2	3	1	19

All the affected carcasses were placed into deep freeze in accordance with Memo 3/Meat.

Table (B).

YEAR	NUMBER OF CASES			
1950	5
1951	10
1952	14
1953	27
1954	19
				TOTAL
				75

TABLE II.
UN SOUND FOOD.

Article.	No.	Reason for Condemnation.
BEEF.		
Whole carcasses and offal	21	Generalised tuberculosis
" " " " " " " " " "	3	Septicaemia
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Johnes disease and emaciation
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Oedema
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Septic Metritis
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Moribund
Quarters	18	Localised tuberculosis
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Tumours
VEAL.		
Whole carcasses and offal	5	Tuberculosis
" " " " " " " " " "	7	Febrility
" " " " " " " " " "	3	Umbilical pyaemia
" " " " " " " " " "	3	Septicaemia
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Jaundice
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Enteritis
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Immaturity
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Extensive Contusions
PORK.		
Whole carcasses and offal	8	Generalised Tuberculosis
" " " " " " " " " "	36	Febrility etc.
" " " " " " " " " "	8	Septicaemia
" " " " " " " " " "	4	Oedema
" " " " " " " " " "	2	Moribund
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Pyaemia
MUTTON.		
Whole carcasses and offal	7	Enteritis
" " " " " " " " " "	8	Febrility
" " " " " " " " " "	5	Oedema
" " " " " " " " " "	1	Septicaemia
" " " " " " " " " "	3	Multiple abscesses
VISCERA, etc. (lbs.)	32449	Localised suberculosis, parasitic and other conditions.
MISCELLANEOUS.		
1574 tins of fish, meat, soup, vegetables etc.	lbs.	
562 tins of condensed & evaporated milk	7295	Pierced, blown, etc.
Tinned Ham	511	"
Imported Beef	2540	Pierced, blown, decomposed
Frozen Pork	1962	Internal decomposition
Roast Pork	127	Decomposed
Lambs Hearts	34	"
Cutlets	114	"
Turkey	90	"
Chicken	54	"
Fowl	259	"
Rabbits	280	"
Minced Beef	16	"
Tongue	15	"
Pressed Meat	9	"
Brawn	17	"
Pork Sausages	6	"
Beef Sausages	259	"
	188	"

UN SOUND FOOD—continued.

Article.	lbs.	Reason for Condemnation.
MISCELLANEOUS.		Decomposed
Sausage Meat	577	"
Sausage Roll	15	"
Meat Pies	202	"
Savoury Ducks	8	"
Cornish Pasties	6	"
Fish Cake	48	"
Black Pudding	4	"
Bacon	953	"
Liquid Egg	268	"
Artificial Cream	19	"
Butter	6	Rancid
Margarine	10	"
Cheese	203	Mould
Cheese	54	Mites
Cake	35	Mould
Cake	42	Contaminated
Vigar Oil	400	Decomposed
Teaseed Oil	200	"
FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.		
Butter Beans	83	Weevil
Dried Apricots	56	Mites
Raisins	30	"
Prunes	8	"
Sultanas	7	"
Bilberries	14	Decomposed
FISH.		
Cod Fillets	270	Decomposed
Haddock Fillets	126	"
Herrings	28	"
Kippers	322	"
Lobster	37	"
Prawns	8	"
Shrimps	3	"
Periwinkles	224	"

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health made by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1954.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local authorities	81	61	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	259	246	28	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	340	307	29	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	43	40	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	2	1	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	11	8	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	12	8	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	70	59	—	1	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK
(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel {	Making, etc. ...	12	—	—	—	—
	Cleaning & Washing	—	—	—	—	—

